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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, FUNDING,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

OF THE

TOWN OF WEBSTER,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1870.

CONCORD :

PRINTED BY THE INDEPENDENT PRESS ASSOCIATION.

1870.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen in account with the Town of Webster, DR.

Received of former Treasurer,	\$114.72
State Treasurer Savings Bank tax,	237.42
" " Railroad tax,	231.16
" " Literary Fund,	40.60
Jabez Abbott, old boards,	1.00
County, on Fairbank's claim,	90.21
County, support of paupers,	8.00
George Little, on collection, 1869,	4,030.00
" " " 1868,	500.00
" " interest on taxes,	9.72
W. W. Austin, bridge timber,	4.00
S. Little, nails and bridge timber,	1.50
John Kilborn, Jr., plank,	22.84
Liquor agent, cash,	20.00
Miriam G. House,	270.00
Dudley C. Hubbard,	200.00
Susan C. Arey,	131.70
Dudley C. Hubbard,	200.00
School District No. 8, Boscawen,	188.00
John Sanborn,	650.00
Charles D. Glitten,	600.00
Little Burbank,	40.00
of Funding Committee, from sales of bonds,	17,539.49
	\$25,130.36

ACCOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

Outstanding Claims.

	CR.
Paid N. M. Noyes, digging grave,	\$2.00
Moses C. Sanborn, non-resident highway tax,	1.13
Perley Jackman, digging grave,	2.00
George Little, express bill,	40
David J. Whittier, abatement,	2.59
Atherton Sweatt, services as selectman in 1868,	2.25

Paid W. W. Austin,	2.25
A. & F. A. Fowler, legal advice in Fairbank's case,	7.00
Sherman Little, services as seectman in 1868,	6.25
Error in bills,	2.36
Independent Press Association, printing reports in 1868,	28.00
Stephen Hanson, work on road,	9.45
“ “ wood for Heath,	1.50
Ezra Waldron, mending boots for Calvin Dow,	50
H. G. Stone, services in County claim,	5.00
N. Butler, services in Fairbank's case,	5.00
Samuel Davis, attorney for O. H. Fitts,	1.00
O. H. Fitts, work on road and bridge,	8.00
O. H. Fitts, water,	2.00
William Eastman, non-resident highway tax,	1.37
William H. Moulton,	1.88
Stephen A. Morrill,	1.13
Enoch J. Chase,	4.50
Sarah Carpenter,	56
John Smiley, use and damage of derrick,	7.00

\$105.12

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Paid Sarah Sanborn,	33.64
Miriam G. House,	355.00
N. H. Arey,	131.70
Sarah Balch,	20.09
Louisa F. Pillsbury,	31.92
Little Burbank,	50.00
District No. 8, Boscawen,	199.28
Anna Downer,	216.00
Levi Sweatt,	158.10
John Aiken,	105.00
William D. Call,	114.72
Isaac D. Merrill,	523.25
Abby C. Sweatt,	647.15
George W. Burbank,	94.15
Elizabeth C. Simpson,	89.29
Daniel Jones and wife,	326.28
Dudley C. Hubbard,	406.46
George Little,	676.11
Calvin Little,	527.67

Paid Amanda S. Elliott,	\$ 55.43
John B. Chase,	286.40
James S. Fellows,	941.92
Albert P. Kilborn,	110.66
Reuben E. French,	561.80
Cyrus A. Stone,	109.87
Jesse D. Sanborn,	1,700.35
Joseph L. Couch,	133.81
Abby S. Corser,	536.36
Benjamin Tucker,	62.66
Hiram Roby,	78.53
John Sanborn,	2,454.15
Harriet M. Hale,	161.38
Abial Trumbull,	363.28
William B. Burpee,	122.81
Charles D. Glitten,	1,616.74
Miriam G. House,	277.83
William B. Courser,	105.16
Mary M. Runals,	800.15
Luther M. Hoyt,	354.49
Ezra Sanborn,	108.50
Sarah Balch,	102.43
Lousia F. Pillsbury,	101.00
Joseph Couch,	140.00
Mary C. Whitney,	481.29
Charles W. Hardy,	290.25
John Sanborn,	661.65
Sarah J. Little,	53.33
Sally Kimball,	577.00
Clara F. Burpee,	39.53
Emily S. Burpee,	359.98
Albert Runals,	376.18
Charles D. Glitten,	612.00
Rhoda Call,	233.13
John Stone,	19.10

\$19,694.96

School Money.

Paid G. M. Smith, District No. 1,	72.70
F. A. Shepard, " " 2,	71.27
George Little, " " 3,	110.13
Walter S. Couch, " " 4,	57.71

Paid William Clough, " " 5,	41.83
John C. Pearson, " " 6,	112.99
Charles H. George, District No. 7,	64.71
Thomas Kilborn, " " 8,	149.63
James H. Trumbull, " " 9,	144.32
Isaac P. Sargent, " " 10,	7.81
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	\$833.10

State and County Tax.

Paid State Treasurer,	\$1,452.00	
County Treasurer,	624.26	
	<hr/>	\$2,076.26

Abatement of Taxes.

Sundry abatements, 1868,	\$22.44	
" " 1869,	11.74	
	<hr/>	\$34.18

Non-resident Highway Tax.

Tax paid in labor,	\$59.68
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Town Officers.

Paid Sherman Little, services as select-		
man and overseer of the poor,	75.00	
W. W. Austin, services as select-		
man and overseer of the poor,	42.00	
Atherton Sweatt, services as select-		
man and overseer of the poor,	40.00	
Atherton Sweatt, services as town clerk,	18.20	
Sherman Little, treasurer's salary,	18.00	
George M. Smith, services as super-		
intending school committee,	50.00	
George Little, services as collector,	35.00	
	<hr/>	\$278.20

Roads and Bridges.

Paid Walker & Co., for iron,	34.58
Ford & Kimball,	7.35
H. M. Fuller, stone and freight,	87.00
John Kilborn, Jr., work on road and bridge,	40.50
Carter F. Blanchard, " "	27.00
J. P. Rowe, stone,	40.00
Daniel Jones, work on road,	4.50

Paid Jesse D. Currier, work on road,	4.00
John Sanborn, "	4.50
James H. Trumbull, "	9.00
Abial Trumbull, work on roads and bridges,	53.00
Rice Corser, " "	12.00
Noah Withington, " "	3.00
George C. Chase, " "	5.70
Charles F. Sanborn, "	21.00
Daniel C. Eastman, work on roads and bridges,	6.00
H. H. & J. L. Gerrish, " "	65.25
Charles A. Brackett, " "	4.81
Thomas Kilborn, " "	38.46
Charles C. Kimball, " "	75.00
William Trussell, " "	6.00
John Sanborn, Jr., plank,	75
Moses E. Page, work on road,	6.00
Moses P. Seavey, "	6.00
Ezra Waldron, "	10.50
C. & C. R. R., freight on stone,	22.40
Henry L. Elliott, work on road,	6.25
J. F. Sanborn, "	3.00
Joseph K. Sanborn, "	12.00
Heman B. Sanborn, stone work,	33.00
Gilman C. Stone, work on bridge,	49.75
Stephen C. Hanson, work on road,	10.50
Charles H. George, "	12.50
Harvey Chase, work on bridge,	34.50
John B. Chase, iron work,	9.49
Calvin Little, work on road,	3.00
D. A. Macurdy, nails and tar,	8.51
William D. George, work on road,	3.50
Albert Runals, plank and work,	16.75
Plummer R. Stevens, work on road,	18.00
F. L. Burbank & Son, timber,	162.58
N. N. Noyes, work on bridge,	75
Paul Pillsbury, work on road,	13.50
F. S. Clark, work and plank,	20.00
W. W. Jackman, work on road,	4.50
Hiram Roby, "	3.00
George Little, work on bridge,	1.13
W. W. Austin, plank and timber,	46.73
W. W. Austin, work on roads and bridges,	105.00
Thomas J. Corser, " "	12.00

Paid Edmund Silver, work on road,	2.50
F. S. Putney, work on bridge,	10.00
E. C. Simpson, work on road,	1.50
Fronk M. Sargent, work on road,	4.75
Smith & Sweatt, powder, fuse and nails,	2.80
Cyrus Dustin, work on road,	1.50
Atherton Sweatt, work on rope,	11.00
Sherman Little, work on roads and bridges,	48.00
John Kilborn, Jr., " "	27.75

\$1,294.04

Support of Paupers.

Paid N. H. Asylum, support of M. Sawyer and wife,	296.26
Ira Towle, medical attendance on Mrs. Sawyer,	15.00
James Kelley, board of Mrs. Sawyer,	32.85
Support of transient pauper,	3.00
D. A. Macurdy, goods for D. Heath,	5.00

\$352.11

Miscellaneous Bills.

Paid B. W. Sanborn & Co., books and blanks,	8.18
D. C. Hubbard, selectmen's expenses,	2.00
Jeremiah Carter, town officer's expenses,	1.25
Abial Trumbull, notifying town officers,	3.00
Perley Jackman, digging graves,	8.75
J. L. Gerrish, painting guide boards,	14.35
P. R. Stevens, water,	3.00
N. N. Noyes, digging graves,	15.25
D. A. Macurdy, rope,	56
E. C. Simpson, selectmen's expenses,	9.58
" " digging graves,	1.50
" " cleaning town house,	50
Smith & Sweatt, school books for indigent families,	2.60
" " stationery, &c.,	2.90
Atherton Sweatt, selectmen's expenses,	2.50
" " services as committee to fund town debt,	15.00
W. W. Austin, services as committee to fund town debt,	15.00
W. W. Austin, selectmen's expenses,	5.00
" " horse hire and car fare,	10.00
Mrs. Adams, snowing bridge,	2.75

Paid Sherman Little, selectmen's expenses,	14.50
" " horse hire and car fare,	19.25
" " postage,	48
" " services as committee to fund the town debt,	15.00
O. H. Fitts, water,	2.00
McFarland & Jenks, printing bonds,	38.00
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	\$210.00

Recapitulation.

Total amount of receipts, \$25,130.36

Which are accounted for as follows :

Paid Outstanding claims,	\$105.12
Notes and interest,	19,694.96
School money,	833.10
State and county tax,	2,076.26
Abatement of taxes,	34.18
Non-resident highway tax paid in labor,	59.68
Town officers,	278.20
Road and Bridges,	1,294.04
Support of paupers,	352.11
Miscellaneous,	210.00
Cash in treasury,	149.71
Cash in treasury, dog tax,	43.00
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	\$25,130.36

Outstanding Notes.

Phebe Noyes,	85.76
Little Burbank,	90.00
Susan C. Arey,	131.70
John Stone,	50.00
H. F. Brackett,	112.00
Calvin Morrill,	50.00
School District No. 8, in Boscawen,	188.00
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	\$706.46
Bonds,	17,500.00
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Total liabilities of the town, \$18,206.46

Assets.

Due from the State, volunteer's bounties
 advanced in 1864, 1,200.00

Due George Little, on collection for 1868,	69.61	
" " " 1869,	800.63	
Stock in hands of liquor agent,	150.50	
Cash in treasury,	192.71	
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		2,413.45

Total indebtedness of the town March 1, 1870, \$15,793.01

SHERMAN LITTLE,
WILLIAM W. AUSTIN, } *Selectmen*
ATHERTON SWEATT, } *of Warner.*

Webster

FUNDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee chosen to fund the town debt, report that they have sold bonds to the amount of \$17,500.00

Made payable as follows:	October 2, 1870,	\$100.00
	" " 1871,	450.00
	" " 1872,	700.00
	" " 1873,	1000.00
	" " 1874,	950.00
	" " 1875,	1000.00
	" " 1876,	1000.00
	" " 1877,	1000.00
	" " 1878,	1000.00
	" " 1879,	1000.00
	" " 1880,	1000.00
	" " 1881,	1000.00
	" " 1882,	1200.00
	" " 1883,	1200.00
	" " 1884,	1000.00
	" " 1885,	1000.00
	" " 1886,	1400.00
	" " 1887,	1500.00
		<hr/>
		\$17,500.00

Received interest on bonds, \$39.49

Total, \$17,539.49

Which is accounted for as follows :

Paid town Treasurer, \$17,539.49

SHERMAN LITTLE,
WILLIAM W. AUSTIN, } *Committee.*
ATHERTON SWEATT, }

SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTRICT No. 1.

The Summer term was taught by Mrs. Etta C. Smith. Being acquainted with the school, no time was lost in organizing, as is the case with many schools where strangers go in as teachers. By devoting herself to the school, the prompt and accurate recitations at the close, showed that success had attended her labors. Good order and good feeling prevailed throughout the term.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. James B. Arey. The teacher lacked experience but not ability. His aim was to make the school worth all it cost to the district,—a point *sometimes* overlooked. The Committee were satisfied at the close that his aims had been met—that the school was a prosperous and pleasant one.

DISTRICT No. 2.

The Summer term, taught by Miss Sarah P. Gage, of Fisherville, was a successful one in every respect. The teacher had a happy faculty of gaining the confidence and affection of all the pupils, and *parents* also. A very commendable progress was visible at the close in all branches.

The Winter term was taught by Miss M. Ella Smith, of Salisbury. Had the school been larger and longer, more enthusiasm might have been awakened. Miss Smith tried to make the school profitable and did. The district might receive much more benefit from schools, if they would let their teachers board around. Try it another year.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Spring Term—Miss Rebecca M. Sawyer, of Salisbury, teacher. The district was fortunate in securing the services of a teacher of such ample qualifications and experience. One term of training by such a teacher is worth two by one of no experience or ability. We emphatically pronounce the school a good one in all respects.

Winter Term—The school in Winter, taught by Miss Susan C. Eastman, was fully up to the Spring school, with one exception—that was discipline. Very marked improvement was made in grammar and mathematics, and finally in *all* branches. Much in-

terest was taken by parents and friends. *One hundred and ten* visits were made during the term. Let all districts follow this example.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Miss Mary R. Webster, teacher for Summer term. This was Miss W.'s first attempt at teaching, but not an unsuccessful one. The school did well. If the teacher, with her ample qualifications will look after order a little more, we promise her large success in future.

The Winter term, by Mr. Frank E. Adams, of Hill, was one of the best in town. Mr. A. is a fine scholar, and a *good* teacher. He labored untiringly for the welfare of his school, and as a result, much was accomplished. We were highly pleased to find so many large pupils attending school in this district. Let others imitate, for "we are never too old to learn."

DISTRICT No. 5.

Both terms were taught by Miss M. Paulina Heath, of Contoocook, with considerable success, and so far as we can learn, acceptance to the district. There was a lack of definiteness in some of the recitations at the close. Improvement was made in reading.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer term taught by Miss Mattie George. We place this at the head of the list of good schools, for two reasons; first, for its good attendance, and next, for its promptness and thoroughness. We find only *one* instance of tardiness; and *seven* of the eleven who attended, were not absent one half day. A compliment to the teacher and pupils, worth more than can be paid by any committee.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Fall term taught by Miss Ellen K. Abbott. To see Miss Abbott's name in connection with any school, is a surety of that school's prosperity. The school was lengthened and enlarged, by pupils from other districts, several of whom came from Salisbury. The examination was one of much interest, being attended by a house full of spectators from all parts of the town. One feature of the school especially deserves notice. The school, as a class, was drilled in gymnastics daily. We wish more teachers would attend to this very important exercise which tends to develop the physical powers, which are equally important to the mental.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Miss Clara A. Putney, teacher. Both terms were successfully taught by the same teacher. Miss Putney devoted her time and

attention to the school, and sought in all things to make it profitable and harmonious. Interest was taken by all parents and friends, and perhaps no school in town made more marked progress in all branches than this one. Good order and a commendable degree of promptness in recitation was manifest at the examinations. This school beats all in town for regular attendance, as may be seen in the statistics. Good for "White Plains."

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer Term—Miss Celestia C. Hoyt, of Dunbarton, teacher. We congratulate the district on securing the services of so successful and experienced a teacher. The order was good, the spirit of love and kindly feeling was noticed at each visit, and a fair degree of improvement in the various classes showed itself at the close. We call it a good school, and, unless the people of "Bashan" are unlike other people in speaking of the *faults* of a teacher, we can say Miss Hoyt gave universal satisfaction to the district.

Winter Term—Mr. Fred G. Chandler, of Fisherville, teacher. Mr. Chandler came to us without experience, but being amply qualified, and having a good idea of what a school should be, he succeeded well. He labored for the good of his pupils, and every class showed improvement at the close. His mode of governing was mild but firm. If a child needed punishing he did not hesitate to do it. Experience will make a desirable teacher of Mr. Chandler.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer Term—Miss Susan C. Eastman, of Henniker, teacher. The district was fortunate in securing the services of one of the best and most successful teachers in the State, and as might be expected, the school made wonderful and pleasing improvement. Miss Eastman's mode of instruction is very excellent. Pupils are made to think and act for themselves. She lifts them out of the old ruts and ways in which they have usually plodded along, and in so doing gets them interested and aroused to see the importance and value of good lessons, and a thorough and practical education. The school did well. The interest on the part of parents was good.

Winter Term—Miss Clara F. Shepard, of Concord, teacher. Miss Shepard is a teacher of some experience, but lacking in some of those qualifications requisite to a successful teacher. As a disciplinarian she is sadly deficient, and in consequence, the school in that district was of little value. We much regret that the school, which is one of the largest and best in town, was so unfortunate in the matter of teacher.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Besides the regular district schools, we have had a private one on "Corser Hill," by Miss Susan C. Eastman, of ten weeks; one on "Little's Hill," by Miss Mattie George, of six weeks; one in "Bashan," by Miss Alice F. Edmunds, of ten weeks; one in "South Part," by Miss Mary E. Whittier, of six weeks, and one now in session in the same district, by Miss Eastman. All of these have been profitable and pleasant. We heartily commend those who have labored to start and sustain them. These schools have cost no less than three hundred dollars, besides books, board and extra expenses attending such schools, and the sacrifice of parents in sparing their sons and daughters, when their help was needed at home. This is an item of no small expense, though indirect. Yet how much cheaper this mode of educating our children, than sending them away from home to a seminary.

The popular sentiment favors an academic drill, but your Committee ventures to assert that there is not a town in the State of New Hampshire, either with or without academic facilities, that can show a larger class of thorough scholars,—according to its population—than Webster. Our young men and young ladies are not all plodding along in arithmetic, grammar and geography, but we have them in the more advanced studies, in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and surveying; in natural, moral and mental philosophy; in chemistry, geology, astronomy, and in French and Latin; and in fact almost every study pursued in our academies. Then why may we not, by taking the money we would spend out of town, raising a little more *school money*, and condensing our school districts, be able to hire teachers who are competent to give our scholars as good a drill, and as thorough a fit for college as they would get at seminaries. The *nine* districts in this town ought to be merged into *four*; then we can have larger and longer schools and better teachers.

And this is a matter which demands our careful attention; for we suffer much from incompetent teachers. We need,—*we must have* better teachers, if we would make the common school what it ought to be.

Very few persons should be tolerated in the school-room who have not been through a thorough course of study. Good common sense, and an aptness to teach, are all very well; but these must be backed up by a thorough education, to make a successful teacher. More than one half of the teachers in our common schools ought not to be there, only as students. We do not speak disrespectfully

of those who are not as well educated as some; yet a teacher, or one who thinks of that calling, should first of all qualify himself for that high and noble position.

Our schools as a whole, have been very prosperous and harmonious. The Committee has not had a call to quiet any disturbance whatever, and but few have entered any complaints. The average attendance has been very excellent indeed; a fact which speaks much in praise of not only teachers and pupils, but parents, who have manifested a great degree of interest, almost universally throughout the town. Nothing can be of greater interest than this to the teacher and pupil. We, as parents and friends, cannot give to this noble cause too much of our time and hearty co-operation.

We would say more, but for want of space, we close; and in doing so, would extend to parents and friends, our hearty thanks for their sympathy and co-operation; to our young friends our best wishes for their future as well as present happiness; to teachers, many words of cheer in their noble calling, and to all, our kind regards for their universal respect during the two years we have served as Superintending School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE M. SMITH.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

No. of District.	TEACHERS.										
		Length of school in weeks.		Wages of teacher, including board.		Whole number of scholars.		Average attendance.		No. of scholars between 4 and 14 not attending school.	
		Tardiness.		Dismissals.		No. of scholars not absent one-half day.		No. of cases of punishment.		No. of visits.	
1	Etta C. Smith.....	8	17	16	14	0	88	0	4	0	11
	James B. Arey.....	8	18	15	13	0	108	2	1	1	19
2	Sarah P. Gage.....	7	20	10	9	2	1	3	5	0	21
	M. Ella Smith.....	6	20	13	10	2	3	10	7	2	19
3	Rebecca M. Sawyer.....	10	26	17	16	0	48	3	9	2	28
	Susan C. Eastman.....	11	32	24	20	1	36	0	9	0	110
4	Mary R. Webster.....	6	14	12	11	0	23	13	1	0	26
	Frank E. Adams.....	7	34	21	18	1	18	4	5	0	34
5	M. Paulina Heath.....	8	14	8	7	0	1	0	5	2	14
	M. Paulina Heath.....	7	14	11	9	0	4	1	7	0	13
6	Mattie George.....	9	18	11	10	0	1	3	7	0	36
	Ellen K. Abbott.....	11	28	23	21	3	107	26	7	0	136
7	Clara A. Putney.....	10	18	10	9	0	4	0	1	1	32
	Clara A. Putney.....	8	19	9	9	0	11	0	6	2	20
8	Celestia C. Hoyt.....	10	22	19	16	4	47	4	2	3	36
	Fred G. Chandler.....	11	32	29	23	0	55	49	0	11	24
9	Susan C. Eastman.....	10	32	29	24	0	29	0	4	0	54
	Clara F. Shepard.....	9	34	37	31	5	23	0	1	0	25